

1. A carrier composition comprising

- a) platelets per stack or less, and/or comprising a cogel with a saponite content C_A of less than 60 %, in which the total of sodium and potassium amounts to less than 1 wt%, based on the total weight of the cogel, and
- b) 1-25 wt% of zeolite Y, based on the total weight of the carrier composition, with a unit cell size below 24.35Å.

2. The carrier composition of claim 1 wherein the clay of which the clay platelets are formed comprises a saponite.

3. The carrier composition of claim 1 wherein the cogel comprises oxidic compounds of aluminum, silicon, and magnesium.

4. The carrier composition of claim 1 wherein the carrier composition comprises an amorphous support material.

5. The carrier composition of claim 4 wherein the amorphous support material comprises alumina.

6. A catalyst comprising the carrier composition of claim 1 and at least one hydrogenation metal component selected from a Group VIB metal component, a Group VII metal component or mixtures thereof.

7. The catalyst of claim 6 wherein the hydrogenation metal component comprises a combination of tungsten and nickel components.

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8. A process for converting heavy feedstock into middle distillates comprising contacting the feedstock at elevated temperature and pressure with hydrogen in the presence of the catalyst of claim 6.

- 5 9. A process for converting heavy feedstock into middle distillates comprising contacting the feedstock at elevated temperature and pressure with hydrogen in the presence of the catalyst of claim 7.